

of the spicula on the surface. When treated with caustic potash, the internal network is destroyed, leaving only the external spicula placed side by side.

This genus is allied to *Grantia*, but it is easily distinguished by the uniform fusiform shape and the disposition of the spicula.

APHROCERAS ALCICORNIS. (Pl. X.)

Hab. Hong-Kong (*Dr. Harland*).

This species somewhat resembles *Grantia botryoides* in appearance and habit; but in that species the spicula are all *triradiate*, which appears to be the generic character of the genus *Grantia* as I propose to restrict it.

6. ON APHROCALLISTES, A NEW GENUS OF SPONGIADÆ FROM MALACCA. BY DR. JOHN EDWARD GRAY, F.R.S., V.P.Z.S., PRESIDENT ENT. Soc.

(Radiata, Pl. XI.)

In 1842 we received from Captain Sir Edward Belcher a Sponge which he obtained in Malacca, which evidently forms a new genus nearly allied to the *Euplectella* of Professor Owen. I therefore have great pleasure in bringing a description of it before the Society.

APHROCALLISTES.

The sponge cylindrical, tubular, branched; the end of the main tube closed with an open network formed of spicula; branches cylindrical, simple, rarely bifid, rounded and closed at the end; the inner surface of the tube with large unequal-sized concavities placed in longitudinal series, having a large roundish oscule near its lower edge.

The sponge hard, calcareous, with uniform, close, equal, regular hexangular pores on the surface, and larger round ostioles in series on the sides of the main tube. The outer surface formed of intertangled transparent spines, which inosculate and unite with each other at the intersection, forming a hard, rather brittle crust. The inner surface lined with a coat of fusiform transparent spicula, which are placed in bangles parallel to each other in the spaces between the roundish internal apertures of the crowded small superficial pores.

This genus is very like *Euplectella* of Professor Owen in its external form, and especially in the upper part of the tube being closed with network.

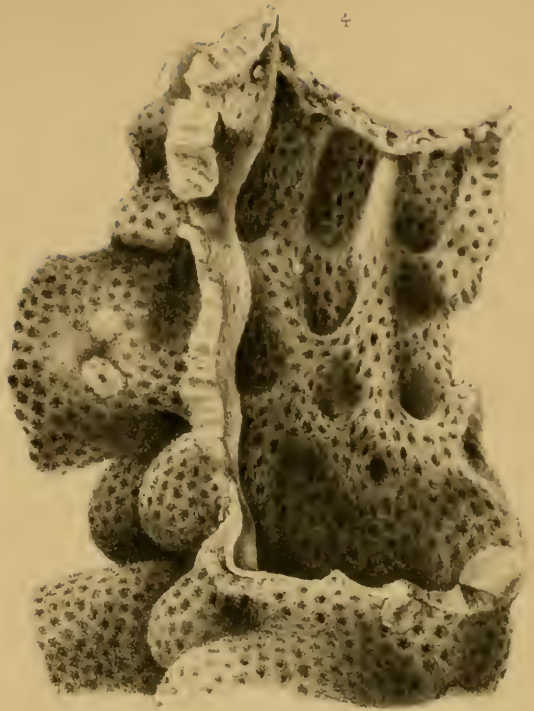
It differs from that genus in being more irregularly formed and branched, and in the structure and calcareous composition of the sponge itself.

In that genus the basis of the tube is formed of ropes of elongated spicula placed at right angles longitudinally and transversely to the

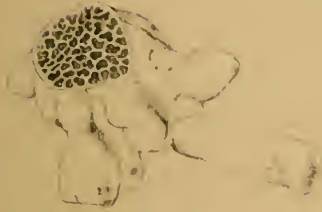
3



4



1



2



CH. Wood.

W. Wood sculp.

APHROCALLISTES HEATRIA Gray
1/3 Natural size. 2 & Magnified